## UNISECO Project Newsletter / Edition 6 / June 2021

**UNISECO IS OVER** 



# UNISECO



European Union's Horizon 2020 Programme GA N° 773901



Understanding & improving the sustainability of agro-ecological farming systems in the EU

### This is the last issue of the UNISECO project newsletter WHERE YOU CAN:

- $\bigotimes\,$  Find out what UNISECO is all about
- Read about the project results
- Know more about networking with other EU projects
- Get information on upcoming events
- $\bigotimes\,$  Find information about how to join us

## What is UNISECO?

UNISECO was an EC funded 3-year Horizon 2020 research and innovation action aiming at strengthening the sustainability of EU farming systems through co-constructing improved and practice validated strategies and incentives for the promotion of improved agro-ecological approaches. Read more | Download the project flyer

## UNISECO FINAL CONFERENCE

The UNISECO project has come to an end on 30 April 2021. We celebrated UNISECO's legacy with a final digital event, gathering partners, experts and members of the European institutions.



The event provided opportunities to:

- Obebate approaches, findings and lessons for policy and for practice, and demonstration of the spatially explicit interactive online tool to explore sustainability impacts of agro-ecological farming systems;
- Contribute to an evolving debate on the role of agroecology in sustainable farming and food systems in Europe, and of effective policy support;
- ② Network with key stakeholders, researchers and other interested parties.

# 369 registered attendees from 35 countries7 plenary and 18 parallel sessions

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT

- $^{\odot}$  The conference was opened by Lara Congiu, EC REA Project Adviser,
- Susana Gaona Saez, EC DG Agri, presented the EU policy context for ecological approaches, and introduced the European R&I partnership on agroecology,
- Heather McKhann presented the related H2020 ALL-Ready project on the preparation of a European network on agroecology living labs and research infrastructures,
- Insights into lessons learnt and emerging key issues for supporting agro-ecological transitions were presented by Laure Latruffe from the H2020 LIFT project, and Gerald Schwarz from the H2020 UNISECO project,
- The synthesis of main findings and recommendations from UNISECO were presented in the session "Governance and sustainability of agro-ecological transitions",
- In two rounds of parallel sessions 15 multi-actor case study results, and the experiences of Multi-Actor Platform approach were presented,
- At a plenary workshop on agroecological transitions in Europe with contributions of the project results to

the Agroecological Partnership, CAP strategic plans and future research topics were discussed.

Read about recommendations for future research needs and actions to promote agro-ecological transitions.

#### DOWNLOAD THE PRESENTATION MATERIALS AND WATCH THE VIDEO RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS

Many thanks to all presenters and attendees for their interest and contributions! We would appreciate your feedback, which you can send us using the questionnaire below.

# ATTENDEE FEEDBACK FORM



#### SESSIT: SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM INTERACTION TOOL

The tool focuses on the dilemma of ensuring sustainable food production, providing a new means of communicating agroecological solutions to interest actors and stakeholders.

Read more

# Final news from UNISECO



#### THE AGRO-ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE HUB

The Agro-ecological Knowledge Hub (AKH) is a library of insights and project results produced by the H2020 UNISECO project to help all spheres of society interested in, practicing, or developing policies for farming and rural development to access new knowledge and information to contribute to a more sustainable agriculture and food system. <u>Visit the AKH tiles</u>

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SOCIETY 29-30 March 2021

## UNISECO AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SOCIETY

UNISECO results were presented in Symposium Nr. 5: "Agroecological transitions of farming systems: Strategies and their implications for sustainability and governance in different European contexts" at the Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Society.

Read more



#### UNISECO SESSIONS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS

We organised a stream of virtual sessions entitled "Agroecological transitions in different geographic contexts: Governance and sustainability" at the virtual AAG 2021 on 10th April 2021.

<u>Read more</u>

## Case study materials, UNISECO issue briefs and policy briefs

The insights captured in our participatory tasks have been distilled into practical and policy recommendations at case study level, and at project/EU level. These provide actionable and substantiated solutions for practitioners and policy-makers to support and advance agroecological practices and farming systems. From recommendations for regenerative farming, composting and input substitution, to diversification, cooperation, knowledge-building and acquiring new skills fit for the challenges – the briefs tackle major key issues and opportunities pertaining to the transition to, or improvement of agro-ecological systems.

Read all policy briefs and issue briefs in the <u>Resources section</u> of our website, and at the <u>UNISECO community page on Zenodo</u>.

Read case study materials, issue- and policy briefs on the case study pages by clicking the tiles below.





UNISECO BRIEFS EIP-AGRI PRACTICE ABSTRACTS AGROECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE HUB SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM INTERACTION TOOL

### **Open Access Scientific articles from UNISECO**

Position paper: Policies for agroecology in Europe, building on experiences in France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Vol. 70(2)2020. Journal of Sustainable and Organic Agricultural Systems.

 <u>Research article: Assessing agro-ecological practices using a combination of three sustainability</u> <u>assessment tools</u>. Vol. 70(2)2020. Journal of Sustainable and Organic Agricultural Systems.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

© 07/2021: XVI Congress of the Eur. Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE), 20-23 July 2021

© 07/2021: <u>7th International Degrowth / 16th International Society for Ecological Economics Joint</u> <u>Conference, 5-8 July 2021</u>

② 08/2021: Eurosoil 2021 Congress, 24-27 August 2021

◎ 11/2021: 3rd Agroecology Europe Forum, 18-20 November 2021

## MANY THANKS FOR HAVING JOINED US!

Your active engagement was very important to ensure that the innovative tools, approaches and policy recommendations that we have developed reflect the views of those who are directly involved in delivering or seeking to strengthen the sustainability of EU farming systems through co-constructing improved and practice validated strategies and incentives for the promotion of improved agro-ecological approaches.

### THERE HAVE BEEN MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN UNISECO:

- Participating in national workshops
- ② Contributing to our virtual Multi-Actor Platform online community (MAP-NEF)
- 🖉 Taking part in the case studies

READ PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE UNISECO NEWSLETTER





This is the last UNISECO newsletter. Thank you for signing up to the UNISECO newsletter. Further information can be found on the <u>UNISECO project website & Agro-ecological</u> <u>Knowledge Hub homepage.</u> UNISECO in the <u>EIP-AGRI multi-actor projects database</u>.



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# PARTNERS





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